

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

Listing of Claims

1-10. (Canceled).

11. (Currently amended) An authentication method,
comprising:

(a) receiving information of a user at a point of service
(POS) terminal;

(b) obtaining an identifier of a communication terminal of
the user based on the received information, said identifier
comprising a mobile terminal call number;

(c) establishing a communication link between a signal
source and the communication terminal using the communication
terminal identifier;

(d) communicating a signal through a path comprising one of:
(i) a path from the signal source to the communication terminal,
from the communication terminal to the POS terminal, and from the
POS terminal back to the signal source and (ii) a path from the
signal source to the POS terminal, from the POS terminal to the
communication terminal, and from the communication terminal back
to the signal source; and

(e) establishing authentication of said user when the signal received by said signal source matches the signal sent by said signal source.

12. (Previously presented) The authentication method of claim 11, wherein step (b) includes correlating the received member information with corresponding information stored in a database to obtain said identifier from the corresponding information.

13. (Currently amended) An authentication apparatus, comprising:

a receiving ~~means for receiving~~ section that receives information provided to a point of service (POS) terminal by a user;

an identification determining ~~means for determining~~ section that determines an identifier of a communication terminal of the user based on the received information, said identifier comprising a mobile terminal call number;

a signal source that generates a signal;

a link establishment ~~means for establishing~~ section that establishes a communication link between the signal source and the user's communication terminal using the identifier;

a communication ~~means for communicating~~ section that communicates the signal through a circuit comprising the signal source, the POS terminal, the user's communication terminal, and the communication link; and

an authorization ~~means for authorizing~~ section that authorizes an event based on a received condition of the signal communicated through the circuit.

14. (Currently amended) The authentication apparatus of claim 13, wherein the identification determining ~~means~~ section associates the received information with stored corresponding information and obtains the identifier from the stored corresponding information.

15. (Currently amended) The authentication apparatus of claim 13, wherein the link establishment ~~means~~ section establishes the communication link in response to a stimulus originated by the signal source.

16. (Currently amended) The authentication apparatus of claim 13, wherein:

the signal source generates the communicated signal;

the authorization means section authorizes the event if the received condition of the signal communicated through the circuit indicates a likelihood of matching the signal generated by the signal source; and

the authorization means section does not authorize the event if the received condition of the signal communicated through the circuit indicates a likelihood of not matching the signal generated by the signal source.

17. (New) An authentication method comprising the steps of:

(a) registering in a database information of members including a first password and a second password of a member, a first identifier of a user, and a mobile communication terminal number constituting a second identifier of the user, wherein said first password, said second password and said mobile communication terminal number correspond to said first identifier in said database;

(b) receiving from the user both the first identifier and a password through an information communication line;

(c) obtaining from the member database said first password corresponding to said first identifier;

(d) identifying the user by comparing said first password obtained from the member database in step (c) and the password received from the user;

(e) after the user is identified in step (d), obtaining from the member database said second password corresponding to the first identifier and the mobile communication terminal number corresponding to the first identifier;

(f) thereafter, connecting to a mobile communication terminal of the member through a mobile communication line using said mobile communication terminal number obtained from said member database;

(g) receiving a password from the connected mobile communication terminal; and

(h) authenticating the user in response to coincidence between the received password from the connected mobile communication terminal and said second password obtained from said member database.

18. (New) An authentication apparatus comprising:

a member database registering information of members including a first password and a second password of a member, a first identifier of a user, and a mobile communication terminal number constituting a second identifier of the user, wherein said

first password, said second password and said mobile communication terminal number correspond to said first identifier in said database;

an individual authentication control device that receives from the user both the first identifier and a password through an information communication line;

a basic authentication device that (i) obtains from said individual authentication control device said first identifier and said password supplied by the user, (ii) obtains from the database said first password corresponding to said first identifier provided by said individual authentication control device and (iii) identifies the user by comparing said first password obtained from said member database and said password received from said individual authentication control device; and

a mobile communication authentication device that, responsive to the user being identified by said basic authentication device, (i) obtains from said individual authentication control device said first identifier, (ii) obtains from the database said second password and the mobile communication terminal number corresponding to the first identifier, (iii) connects to a mobile communication terminal of the member through a mobile communication line using said mobile communication terminal number obtained from said member database,

and (iv) obtains a password from said mobile communication terminal;

wherein said mobile communication authentication device authenticates the user in response to coincidence between said password received from said mobile communication terminal and said second password obtained from said member database.

19. (New) An accounting method comprising the steps of:

(a) registering in a database information of members including a first password and a second password of a member, a first identifier of a user, and a mobile communication terminal number constituting a second identifier of the user, wherein said first password, said second password and said mobile communication terminal number correspond to said first identifier in said database;

(b) receiving a first identifier, a password, and an accounting amount relating to a commercial transaction from the user through an information communication line;

(c) obtaining from the member database said first password corresponding to said first identifier;

(d) identifying the user by comparing said first password obtained from the member database in step (c) and the password received from the user;

(e) after the user is identified in step (d), obtaining from the member database said second password corresponding to the first identifier and the mobile communication terminal number corresponding to the first identifier;

(f) thereafter, connecting to a mobile communication terminal of the member through a mobile communication line using said mobile communication terminal number obtained from said member database;

(g) inquiring approval or rejection from said member of a payment of said accounting amount and if approval is given, receiving a password from the connected mobile communication terminal; and

(h) registering the accounting amount in said member database together with information about commercial transaction presentation and deducting the accounting amount from a bank account registered preliminarily in response to coincidence between the received password from the connected mobile communication terminal and said second password obtained from said member database.

20. (New) An accounting apparatus comprising:

a member database that registers information of members including a first password and a second password of a member, a first identifier of a user, and a mobile communication terminal number constituting a second identifier of the user, wherein said first password, said second password and said mobile communication terminal number correspond to said first identifier in said database;

an individual authentication control device that receives a first identifier, a password and an accounting amount relating to a commercial transaction supplied by the user through an information communication line;

a basic authentication device that (i) obtains from said individual authentication control device said first identifier and said password supplied by the user, (ii) obtains from the database said first password corresponding to said first identifier provided by said individual authentication control device and (iii) identifies the user by comparing said first password obtained from said member database and said password received from said individual authentication control device;

a mobile communication authentication device that, responsive to the user being identified by said basic authentication device, (i) obtains from said individual

authentication control device said first identifier, (ii) obtains from the database said second password and the mobile communication terminal number corresponding to the first identifier, (iii) connects to a mobile communication terminal of the member through a mobile communication line using said mobile communication terminal number obtained from said member database, and (iv) obtains a password from said mobile communication terminal;

wherein said mobile communication authentication device authenticates the user responsive to coincidence between said password received from said mobile communication terminal and said second password obtained from said member database; and

an accounting device that registers the accounting amount in said member database together with information about commercial transaction presentation and deducts the accounting amount from a bank account registered preliminarily, responsive to coincidence between said password received from said mobile communication terminal and said second password obtained from said member database.

21. (New) An accounting method as defined in claim 19 further comprising the step of:

receiving facility ID information of a facility for presentation of the commercial transaction, through an information communication line; and
identifying the facility.

22. (New) An accounting apparatus as defined in claim 20 further comprising:

a facility database registering information of presentation facility for presentation of the commercial transaction; and

a facility authentication device,

wherein said accounting authentication control device further receives facility ID information for identifying the facility, through an information communication line,

wherein said facility authentication device identifies the facility by comparing facility ID information registered in said facility database and the facility ID information received from said accounting authentication control device, and

wherein said mobile communication authentication device connects to the mobile communication terminal of the debtor registered in said member database, when the facility ID, the first identifier, and the first password received are identified by said facility authentication device and said basic authentication device.

23. (New) The authentication method according to claim 17, wherein the user is different from said member.

24. (New) The authentication apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the user is different from said member.

25. (New) The accounting method according to claim 19, wherein the user is different from said member.

26. (New) The accounting apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the user is different from said member.